



## Ozark Fire Protection District Press Release

The month of October is always a fun time for the fire service. October each year is designated as Fire Prevention Month and is a time for the district to get out into the community to speak with schools, daycares, and local civic groups about fire prevention. Each year we enter Ozark Schools and get to speak with some amazing children. They always ask fun and interesting questions and keep the conversation lively.



This year the National Fire Protection Association has elected cooking safety as the main topic of discussion.

- 1. Take the time to discuss an escape plan should there be an emergency incident.
- 2. Always maintain a 3-foot safety zone around an operating stove.
- 3. Always turn the pot and pan handles to the inside of the stove to avoid being knocked off.
- 4. Keep a fire extinguisher handy near the kitchen area.
- 5. Contact your local fire district for fire extinguisher classes. (https://www.ozarkfire.org/events)

## **Press Release**

The month of October is always Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Members are wearing their pink shirts to show support.



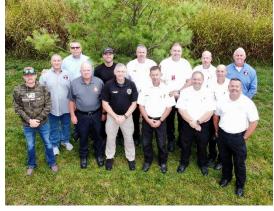
Station #3 continues with progress. It has received a new paint coating and the interior work is finishing up. We are slated to have crews back in the station by the end of the year. We are anxious to show everyone the progress photos when it is complete.



The district recently received 45 new MSA SCBAs (Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus). This project culminates many months of dedication by Battalion Chief Caleb Thompson. These breathing apparatus allow Firefighters to perform work in hazardous conditions. These packs will replace current packs that are almost 10 years old.



Four of our members were certified as instructors for the "Managing a Fire Company" program. As instructors, these members will host many upcoming trainings in the area. "Managing a Fire Company" provides instruction to up-and-coming or current Company Officers (Lieutenant or Captain) to better prepare them for the challenges they may see during their careers. From managing the daily activities in the firehouse, disciplinary



issues, physical fitness, and mental health concerns are topics covered by the program. We know these members will be successful with the future delivery of the program!

## **Press Release**

As always, we encourage everyone to be fire-safe. This month it is "Thanksgiving safety". A few things to cover for the upcoming holiday season.

- Cooking a turkey:
  - Always ensure you have the appropriate oil level prior to introducing the turkey.
  - Always have the prior fire extinguisher readily available.
  - Keep fryers away from flammable structures.
- Furnaces will be ignited with colder weather on the way:
  - Have your HVAC cleaned and serviced annually to remove dust and cobwebs prior to being ignited.
  - Have your flue cleaned and inspected annually to ensure proper operation before igniting.
  - Keep space heaters away from flammable materials and remove power when not attended.

For further information or to have your smoke detectors checked, please contact us at the district HQ (417) 581-4436 M-F 7 am-4 pm, or visit our website for more information.

Respectfully;

**Aaron S. Heaton** 

**Assistant Chief** 

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Ozark Fire Protection District

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